

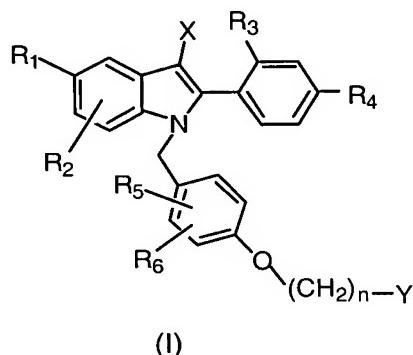
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

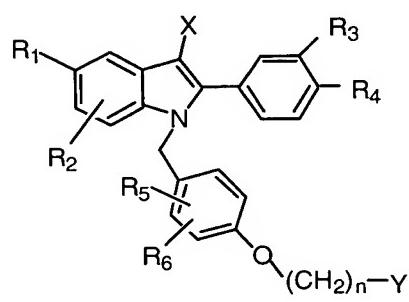
Claims 1-107 (canceled).

**Claim 108 (new).** A method of treating or inhibiting osteoarthritis in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula I or II, having the structures



(I)

or



(II)

wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> is selected from H, OH or the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> esters (straight chain or branched) or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> (straight chain or branched or cyclic) alkyl ethers thereof, or halogens; or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> halogenated ethers including trifluoromethyl ether and trichloromethyl ether.

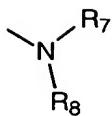
R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, and R<sub>6</sub> are independently selected from H, OH or the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> esters (straight chain or branched) or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkyl ethers (straight chain or branched or cyclic) thereof, halogens, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> halogenated ethers including trifluoromethyl ether and trichloromethyl ether, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl (straight chain or branched), or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>2</sub> is not OH.

X is selected from H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, halogen;

n is 2 or 3;

Y is selected from:

a) the moiety:



wherein R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> are independently selected from the group of H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or phenyl optionally substituted by CN, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl (straight chain or branched), C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy (straight chain or branched), halogen, -OH, -CF<sub>3</sub>, or -OCF<sub>3</sub>;

b) a five-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)-, -N=, and -S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, trihalomethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> acyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, -CO<sub>2</sub>H-, -CN-, -CONHR<sub>1</sub>-, -NH<sub>2</sub>-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylamino, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>1</sub>-, -NHCOR<sub>1</sub>-, -NO<sub>2</sub>, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl;

c) a six-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)-, -N=, and -S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, trihalomethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> acyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, -CO<sub>2</sub>H-, -CN-, -CONHR<sub>1</sub>-, -NH<sub>2</sub>-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylamino, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>1</sub>-, -NHCOR<sub>1</sub>-, -NO<sub>2</sub>, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl;

d) a seven-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)-, -N=, and -S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, trihalomethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> acyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, -CO<sub>2</sub>H-, -CN-, -CONHR<sub>1</sub>-, -NH<sub>2</sub>-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylamino, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>1</sub>-, -NHCOR<sub>1</sub>-, -NO<sub>2</sub>, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl; or

e) a bicyclic heterocycle containing from 6-12 carbon atoms either bridged or fused and containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C<sub>1</sub>C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)-, and -S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, trihalomethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> acyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, -CO<sub>2</sub>H-, -CN-, -CONHR<sub>1</sub>-, -NH<sub>2</sub>-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylamino, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>1</sub>-, -NHCOR<sub>1</sub>-, -NO<sub>2</sub>, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>) alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

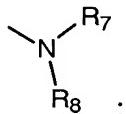
**Claim 109 (new).** The method according to Claim 108 wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> is selected from H, OH or the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen;

R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, and R<sub>6</sub> are independently selected from H, OH or the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>2</sub> is not OH;

X is selected from H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, halogen;

Y is the moiety



R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> are selected independently from H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or combined by -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, wherein p is an integer of from 2 to 6, so as to form a ring, the ring being optionally substituted by up to three substituents selected from the group of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, trihalomethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CN, -CONH(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>), -NH<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylamino, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>), -NHCO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>), and -NO<sub>2</sub>; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

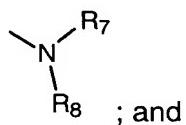
**Claim 110 (new).** The method according to Claim 108 wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> is OH;

R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, and R<sub>6</sub> are independently selected from H, OH or the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when R<sub>1</sub> is H, R<sub>2</sub> is not OH;

X is selected from the group of Cl, NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, CF<sub>3</sub>, or CH<sub>3</sub>;

Y is the moiety



R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> are concatenated together as -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>r</sub>-, wherein r is an integer of from 4 to 6, to form a ring optionally substituted by up to three substituents selected from the group of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, trihalomethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, -CN, -CONH(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>), -NH<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylamino, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>), -NHCO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>), and -NO<sub>2</sub>;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

**Claim 111 (new).** The method according to Claim 108, wherein the compound is 1-[4-(2-azepan-1-yl-ethoxy)-benzyl]-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-3-methyl-1H-indol-5-ol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

**Claim 112 (new).** The method according to Claim 108, wherein the compound is 2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-3-methyl-1-[4-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-5-ol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.